

From: Stuart Holden
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I was pleased to hear that the Microsoft Antitrust case had settled in Federal Court, but then disappointed to hear that the states (including my own - Connecticut) were continuing their own cases.

In my 25 year career I have used many software products from a variety of vendors - Borland, Symantec, Oracle, Microsoft, Lotus, IBM, Sterling Commerce, MicroPro (WordStar), Red Hat, Aldus, to name a few. I have found Microsoft software to be the most intuitive and easy to use software; the commonality across it's products has saved countless training dollars.

While Microsoft could be viewed as a monopoly, it can also be viewed as a provider of products which work together in a consistent fashion. Doesn't anyone remember "IBM Compatible" which "meant buy it, see if it works and doesn't stop anything else from working".

The courts should get out of the marketplace and let consumers decide with their wallets.

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